parrot-like prattle, uttered in ſolemn cadences, with all the pomp of ignorance and folly. Such exhibitions only ſerve to ſtrike the ſpreading fibres of vanity through the whole mind; for they neither teach children to ſpeak fluently, nor behave gracefully. So far from it, that theſe frivolous purſuits might comprehenſively be termed the ſtudy of affectation; for we now rarely ſee a ſimple, baſhful boy, though few people of taſte were ever diſguſted by that awkward ſheepiſhneſs ſo natural to the age, which ſchools and an early introduction into ſociety, have changed into impudence and apiſh grimace.

Yet, how can theſe things be remedied whilſt ſchool-maſters depend entirely on parents for a ſubſiſtence; and, when ſo many rival ſchools hang out their lures, to catch the attention of vain fathers and mothers, whoſe parental affection only leads them to wiſh that their children ſhould outſhine thoſe of their neighbours?

Without great good luck, a ſenſible, conſcientious man, would ſtarve before he could raiſe a ſchool, if he diſdained to bubble weak parents by practiſing the ſecret tricks of the craft.

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In the beſt regulated ſchools, however, where ſwarms are not crammed together, many bad habits muſt be acquired; but, at common ſchools, the body, heart, and underſtanding, are equally ſtunted, for parents are often only in queſt of the cheapeſt ſchool, and the maſter could not live, if he did not take a much greater number than he could manage himſelf; nor will the ſcanty pittance, allowed for each child, permit him to hire uſhers ſufficient to aſſiſt in the diſcharge of the mechanical part of the buſineſs. Beſides, whatever appearance the houſe and garden may make, the children do not enjoy the comfort of either, for they are continually reminded by irkſome reſtrictions that they are not at home, and the ſtate-rooms, garden, &c. muſt be kept in order for the recreation of the parents; who, of a Sunday, viſit the ſchool, and are impreſſed by the very parade that renders the ſituation of their children uncomfortable.

With what diſguſt have I heard ſenſible women, for girls are more reſtrained and cowed than boys, ſpeak of the weariſome confinement, which they endured at ſchool. Not allowed, perhaps, to ſtep out of one broad walk in a ſuperb garden, and obliged to pace with ſteady deportment ſtupidly backwards